

## TOWN OF SARDINIA

### Proposed Rt.16 Water District informational Meeting

### Special Joint Meeting Session with Sardinia Town Board Members

October 19, 2010 at 7:00 PM

#### **Planning Board Members Present:**

Darren Farthing, Chmn.

Robert Church

Roxana Waters

Douglas Morrell

#### **Town Board Members Present:**

Mary Hannon, Supervisor

Dan Miller

Cheryl Earl

Norm Uhteg

Supervisor, Mary Hannon thanked everyone for coming tonight and then turned the meeting over to Bob Church.

Bob Church first drew a map of where all of the businesses and residences are that are involved in the proposed water district. He also showed on the map some of the dry water hydrants that are put in place around Sardinia.

He then proceeded with a summary of what was talked about at the Sept 28<sup>th</sup>'s informational meeting. He stated that 80% of Businesses are in favor of the project because of the possibility of lowering insurance costs and 80% of residences are opposed to the project because of the higher taxes they would have to pay.

Bob Church reported that the reason why the cost of insurance is so high is because of the lack of fire hydrants and water sources. ISO and PPC look at a number of factors such as the capabilities of the Fire Company, equipment, training and water supply. After considering all of the factors a rating is given to each community. The town of Sardinia is rated overall with a 9 with some things in the ranges of 10 which means we have a poor rating. To be able to reduce insurance rates it first has to start with the fire company and then add more water sources.

Bob Church then passed around a copy of Ground Water Basic Data that he received from the Erie County Health Dept. The report showed that quantity of water was not an issue but quality was. A majority of businesses and residences already have filtration and water softening systems set up to make their water more useable. The ECHD report was in question because of the dates of when these

water samples were taken. Some felt that the water quality may have changed over the course of these last 3 or 4 years.

The next topic Bob Church discussed was where the additional water would come from. The Town of Yorkshire could be possibly a source but is not sure the Town of Yorkshire will even approve of this project. In addition, Sardinia will be limited in growth of the water district. Arcade was then looked at as another possible source. The main concern with Arcade would be whether or not they would have enough water pressure. They would also have to construct a loop which would then increase engineering and construction costs. There is also no room for economic growth on RT16 as well. The Chaffee Water Works was also discussed as another option but least likely to happen since they only have 4 inch piping and they are a privately owned business. The last option brought up by Bob Church was putting up a water storage tower in Sardinia and creating our own water supply for the town. This option would also probably prove to be very costly to the town.

Bob Church stated that according to Clark, Patterson and Lee that the estimated cost of this project could be \$1.1 million. This was based on the number of units and included the potential Town House and Industrial Park. The cost of the project would have been spread out for 30-40 years. A residence is considered one unit, while a business could be considered 5 units. Each unit would have roughly cost \$600 a year. Once a unit cost has been established it has to be sent to the Controller of the State so they can approve it. This can also prove to be a lengthy drawn out process where it can take up to two years to get an approval. Funding for this project will also prove to be very difficult. Banks will not allow loans to commercial businesses for improving water quality. Residences can qualify but since 80% of the residences did not want the project, most of the funding may be coming from the town.

The last thing Bob Church discussed was whether or not to be a water district or have water zones. Bob Church had stated that there is still some confusion on what exactly is a water zone and can it be legally done. Bob Church had stated that each water zone could either accept or reject the project. The price per unit could be considerably higher but the residences and businesses could decide for themselves if they want to be part of the water zone. Mr. Uhteg and Darren Farthing both had stated that they didn't think this was legal anymore.

Planning Board Chairman, Darren Farthing stated that the Planning Board had already approved at the last planning board meeting that Clark, Patterson and Lee should update the prior engineering report. This report should include the number of units involved since the town houses and industrial park is no longer included. The report should also include all possible water sources even from the Chaffee water works and possibly supplying our own water by using a water tower. Most importantly we need on the report what the cost per unit will now be. Supervisor, Mary Hannon stated that Clark, Patterson and Lee would do the engineering report for the same price as last time (\$1,500).

At the end of the meeting, Supervisor Mary Hannon thanked everyone for coming and said how this was a very informational meeting.

Minutes submitted by Colleen Cottrell.